



DAP 290

Geeta Jayanti

Geeta Jayanti and the Bhagvad Geeta

Geeta Jayanti is the day when Shri Krishna told the Geeta to Arjun on the Battle field of the Mahabharat. Arjun got dejected at the very beginning of the battle, and a lot of questions came to his nervous mind.

Shri Krishna answered Arjun's questions to remove his doubts.

Since it was told as a song (Song = Geet) by Bhagwan himself it is known as Bhagwad Geeta.

It is one of the most widely accepted and read (amongst Hindus and non-hindus) philosophical, yet simple conversation.

It is as relevant to people living in the East and West today as it was to the people of Bharat more than 5,000 years ago.

The Geeta is the conversation between:

- A Guru (Shri Krishna) and a Shishya – disciple (Arjun)
- Two friends (Shri Krishna and Arjun were childhood friends)
- Two brothers (Shri Krishna and Arjun were cousins)
- That is why it has depth of Philosophy, intimacy of thoughts and feeling of collective efforts.



Why was Geeta born?

- ◆ Arjun has lost his focus at the start of the great war Mahabharata.
- ◆ He doesn't want to perform his duty of protecting his people by conquering his own blood relatives.
- ◆ He needs help to know what is his Dharma (right duty).
- ◆ He drops his arms.
- ◆ He weeps and prays to Shri Krishna to show him the right way.



What Does Shri Krishna Tell Arjun?

- ◆ Bhagwan asks Arjun not to grieve for anyone because all who are born die.
- ◆ The Atma who powers the body will remain forever...
- ◆ No weapon can kill Atma.
- ◆ No fire can burn Atma
- ◆ Atma is immortal.
- ◆ Everyone in earth is in a cycle of birth and death.
- ◆ This goes on until a person reaches Moksha, or liberation from this cycle....
- ◆ Complete faith in Shree Bhagwan gets Moksha easily.



Shri Krishna Says:

You can get liberation from the life cycle by:

- Not having an ego, lust and greed.
- Loving all beings and all things unconditionally.
- Having Shradhha. It is believing in Ishwar each and every moment,
- Try to live life as our Gurus, Rishis and Sadhus lived..
- Leaving results of our action to Ishwar and having all concentration on actions.



Shri Krishna says

- ◆ Ishwar is present everywhere and in every living being.
- ◆ He has given free will to man kind to contemplate and understand same.



Geeta ends with the message, that wherever there is
Shri Krishna (**Truth**)
and
Arjun (**Dharma** – just action),
there is always
victory (**Shanti** - peace and **Anand** - happiness).



When Swami Yoganandji was asked to put the Geeta in one line, he said, “Bhagwan has become everything – all the actions lead to him (BrahmarpanamBrahma karma Samadhina)”

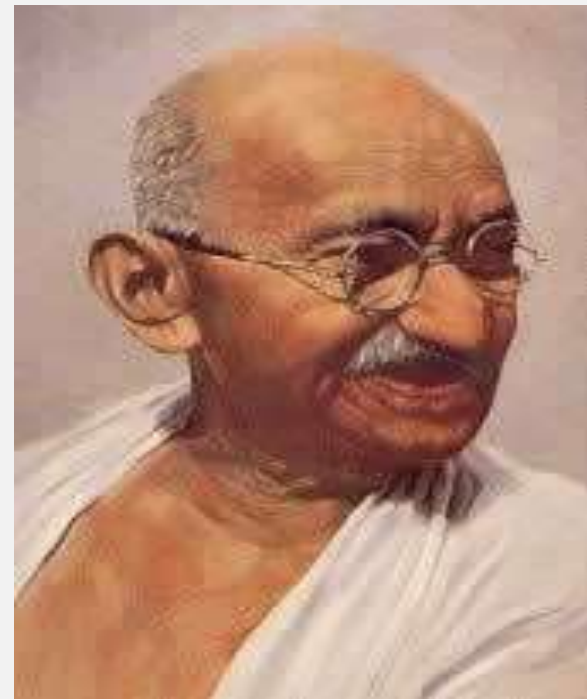


Geeta,



Some great persons who followed Gita all their life

- ◆ Famous freedom fighter Lokmanya Tilak followed path of action. He coined the phrase “Freedom is my birth right,” and was the foremost leader before Gandhiji.
- ◆ Gandhiji focused on devotion to Ishwar, and self purification. He drew his strength from Gita.
- ◆ Devotion to Ishwar allows us to see him in everyone, hence love and service to others becomes only course of action left.

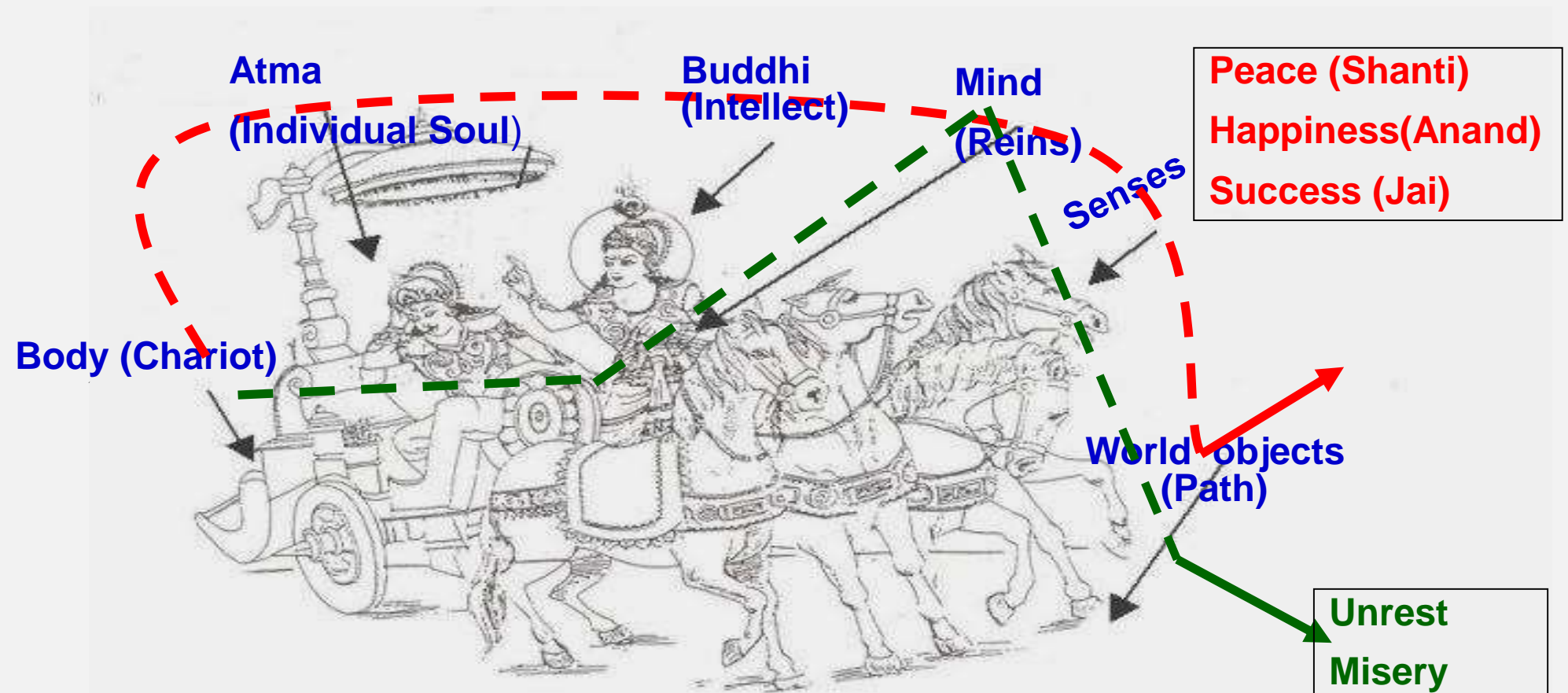




Astronaut Sunita Williams took the Gita with her to the Space Station.

Cool fact, huh?

Essence of Gita – Key to perfected Karma (Action)



--- Path of Dharma – How to achieve it?

Thru Faith in Ishwar (Bhakti Yoga), follow teachings of wise people (Gyan Yoga)

--- Path of Ignorance – How to avoid it?

Thru Faith in Ishwar (Bhakti Yoga), follow teachings of wise people (Gyan Yoga)



Shubh Geeta Jayanti

Jai Shri Krishna

Courtesy and references :

1. Many of the beautiful pictures used in this presentation are from ISCKON's art gallery.